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ALBANIA. Dec. 9.—Note of protest from the British Government
re the mined destroyers. (*see Great Britain*).

ARGENTINA. Dec. 13.—A trade pact was signed with Chile, by
which Argentina agreed to grant loans and credits and to invest in
Chile an aggregate of 700 million pesos (over £40 million).

Dec. 14.—The President appointed some 40 worker delegates to be
labour attachés in Embassies and Legations. He said that Argentine
faith must be spread through the world by the working class.

Dec. 17.—The Government signed a contract for the purchase of
3 French-owned railways in Argentina for 182,796,174 pesos.

AUSTRIA. Dec. 13.—The Allied Council agreed to the denazification
law passed by Parliament six months previously, and on the procedure
to be adopted in the election of students and professors to the univer-
sities. The food plan for the current harvest year was also accepted,
the Russian representative agreeing to release food from his zone for
equal distribution throughout the country, and the 4 High Com-
missioners undertaking to put any food sent by their respective Govern-
ments at the disposal of the Austrian administration.

Dec. 18.—British statement on grants and loans. (*see Great Britain*).

BURMA. Dec. 20.—Mr. Attlee's statement *re* Burmese independence.
(*see Great Britain*).

The Leader of the "Burma for the Burmans" Party said that he had
formed a "Democratic National United Front" of all but one of the
major parties, which would negotiate with Great Britain once freedom
was granted. Its policy would be to establish "national unity and
democratic freedom", and it would have nothing to do with the

Communists, who lacked both a constructive policy and a programme. The Anti-Fascist People's Freedom League, led by the Defence Member of the Governor's Executive Council, was the only party refusing to join the new United Front.

CANADA. *Dec. 10.*—The Prime Minister announced ministerial changes: Mr. Ilsley to be Minister of Justice; Mr. Abbott, Finance Minister and to continue to hold the Defence portfolio; and Mr. St. Laurent to continue as Minister of External Affairs, relinquishing the portfolio of Justice.

CHILE. *Dec. 13.*—Trade pact with Argentina. (*see Argentina*).

CHINA. *Dec. 12.*—General Chou En-lai, speaking in Yen-an on the anniversary of the Sian incident, accused General Chiang Kai-shek of co-operating with Germany and Italy in the early stages of the war with Japan, and of maintaining clandestine relations with Japan during it. He also accused the U.S.A. of attempting world domination. He reiterated the Communist attitude that the National Assembly in Nanking should be dissolved, and the military position of the Communists and the Government restored to the position held in January, before negotiations could be resumed.

Dec. 18.—U.S. statement on policy towards China. (*see U.S.A.*).

CZECHOSLOVAKIA. *Dec. 10.*—A temporary trade agreement, with mutual credits, was signed with Turkey.

Dec. 14.—The provisional Assembly passed the 1947 Budget. An agreement was signed with the British Government for the purchase on credit of surplus stores to the value of £2,500,000.

EGYPT. *Dec. 9.*—Mahmud el Nokrashy Pasha, at the King's request, formed a coalition Cabinet of Saadists and Liberals.

British statement on the Sudan. (*see Great Britain*).

Dec. 10.—Mohamed Allouba Pasha, who had been appointed Minister of Wakfs, resigned, because he opposed the Government's treaty policy.

Dec. 16.—Nokrashy Pasha, addressing Parliament, said foreign policy was the Government's first preoccupation at the moment because the whole nation was impatiently awaiting the breaking of the last fetter on its independence and dignity. First among their objectives came the claims to the evacuation and the unity of the Nile Valley. In affirming the permanent unity of Egypt and the Sudan they were only expressing the will of the inhabitants of the Valley. They would spare no effort to set the Sudan on the road to self-government, to prepare its inhabitants to manage their own affairs, and to work for their happiness and prosperity. He also referred to internal reforms and, in particular, the fight against the high cost of living.

The Government received a vote of confidence by 150 votes to 21, with 7 abstentions.

Mr. Jinnah arrived in Cairo. He told the press that only when Pakistan was established would Muslims be really free; otherwise there would be the menace of a Hindu imperialist Indian Government spreading its tentacles right across the Middle East.

Dec. 20.—The Leader of the Muslim Brotherhood said that he "pledged all means of support" for the Indian Muslims' Pakistan concept.

FRANCE. *Dec. 9.*—The Minister of Finance presented a statement to the Assembly emphasizing the gravity of the financial situation. Military expenditure, which was 38½ per cent of expenditure in 1920, was now 46 per cent. Economic subsidies cost 100,000 million francs, and social services 15 times more than at the end of the four years' war. National revenue, however, had increased by less than half.

Dec. 12.—M. Blum was elected Prime Minister. He received 575 votes; 8 votes were cast for the Minister of Finance, and there were 7 blank papers.

Dec. 16.—M. Blum formed a Socialist Government, negotiations for a Coalition having broken down. The portfolios were allocated as follows: M. Blum, Prime Minister and Foreign Affairs; M. Guy Mollet and M. Augustin Laurent, Ministers of State; M. Ramadier, Justice; M. Depreux, the Interior; M. Le Troquer, National Defence; M. Gouin, Planning; M. André Philip, National Economy and Finance; M. Tanguy-Prigent, Agriculture; M. Lacoste, Industrial Production; M. Naegelen, Education; M. Moch, Public Works and Transport; M. Moutet, Oversea Territories; M. Mayer, Labour; M. Thomas, Posts and Telegraphs; M. Segelle, Public Health; and M. Lejeune, Ex-Service Men.

M. Blum in a broadcast said: "I have formed a Government at all costs because the continuation of the crisis would have been fraught with peril for republican institutions." Although the term of the Government was only 5 weeks, he hoped that they would be able "to do something to instil fresh ardour into the nation".

Dec. 17.—The Government received a vote of confidence by 544 votes to 2, with 70 abstentions. The opponents were members of the Right, and the abstentions included 36 Popular Republicans, 17 Independent Republicans, and 17 from various parties, including Socialists and Communists. M. Blum warned the Assembly that stringent economies would have to be effected, but that the sacrifices would be equitably and democratically shared. Referring to foreign affairs, he said: "We shall try with our allies and our friends and with other interested Powers to find the surest means of preventing the reconstruction of a war industry in Germany, and more particularly in the Ruhr and the Rhineland." Negotiations for the economic attachment of the Saar territory would be continued.

Dec. 19.—The Government announced its decision to introduce a Customs control between the Saar and the remainder of the French zone of Germany. It in no way altered the Customs position between France and Germany.

Dec. 22.—The Assembly passed a Finance Bill by 530 votes to 60 authorizing current expenditure for 3 months.

The Government concluded a trade and payments agreement with Italy for 1947.

GERMANY. *Dec. 9.*—It was announced in Berlin that coal production in the Ruhr was now more than 200,000 tons a day, for the first time since the end of the war.

Dec. 11.—An ordinance was issued by the Control Commission stating that Civilian Control Commission courts would succeed Military Government Courts in the British zone from Jan. 1.

Dec. 12.—The Head of the British man-power division announced in Berlin that the membership of German trade unions in the British zone was approaching 1,750,000. It was genuinely German in origin, and was the largest body of organized and representative opinion in the zone, exceeding that of all the political parties put together.

Mr. Hynd arrived at Düsseldorf for discussions on the nationalization of key industries.

Gen. von Stülpnagel, the Governor of Paris during the war, was arrested in the French zone. Dr. Schumacher returned from London. The U.S. deputy Military Governor stated in Berlin that the fusion of the 2 zones should raise the level of production and the standard of life. There would be a joint revolving fund of at least £22 million, which might be increased to £32,500,000 by realization of Swedish-held German assets.

Dec. 13.—Dr. Schumacher, in reply to *Pravda's* article of Dec. 9, said: "We have no Führer complex, but we have a democratic complex, and that they do not forgive us". He said there must be close ties with England and that industry must be re-established as soon as possible, as payment of reparations and debts depended "on a working... German industry".

Dec. 19.—Customs control introduced between the Saar and Germany. (*See France*)

Dec. 22.—An agreement for the first 3 months of 1947 for the exchange of goods and supplies between the combined British and U.S. area and the Russian zone was signed. The Russian zone would provide "significant tonnages" of bread grains, forage, fuel, and wood pulp in return for iron, steel, and tyres.

GREAT BRITAIN. *Dec. 9.*—An official statement issued in London stated that the Governor-General of the Sudan's statement of Dec. 7 "was necessitated by the situation created in the Sudan itself by earlier and partial disclosures in Egypt of the Sidky-Bevin conversations... Continued silence by the Sudan Government in the face of one-sided interpretation... would have resulted in serious unrest, if not worse". In the circumstances neither the Sudan nor the British Government could be blamed for making their position clear. The British Government were endeavouring to establish that "when the time is ripe for the Sudanese to choose their future, they shall be free to say, if they so desire, that they choose the status of an independent State. Clearly

this is only one of the choices open to them. For example, they may choose union with Egypt". It would, however, be impossible for any Government "to acquiesce in any interpretation of a treaty with Egypt . . . which denies one of the fundamental rights of free people—a right which Egypt has never ceased to claim for herself".

General Smuts arrived in London.

Pravda's article on Dr. Schumacher's visit. (see *U.S.S.R.*).

The Government, through the Ambassador in Yugoslavia, sent another Note to Albania about the mining of the destroyers on Oct. 22.

Dec. 10.—The text of the Note to Albania was published. It accused the Albanian Government of a "deliberately hostile act" in laying mines, or allowing them to be laid, in the Corfu Channel, and demanded reparation for the damage suffered and full compensation to the relatives of the 44 officers and men who lost their lives. If no satisfactory reply was received within 14 days, the Government would bring the matter before the Security Council "as a serious threat to, and a breach of, international peace and security, showing criminal disregard of the safety of innocent seamen of any nationality lawfully using an international highway". It stated that the mines could not have been laid "without the connivance or at least the knowledge of the Albanian authorities". There was conclusive evidence that they were placed in the water "only a very short time before the date on which H.M. ships . . . suffered damage and casualties". The Note also renewed the previous demand for an apology for the action of firing on 2 cruisers on May 15.

Dec. 11.—Mr. Attlee, in a statement in Parliament on the Indian situation, said that it was hoped that the Cabinet Mission's proposals of May 16 would enable the Indians to frame their own Constitution. The essence of the proposals was that while there would be a Union of India limited to Foreign Affairs, Defence, and Communications, there would be opportunity, by the adoption of a particular procedure in the Constituent Assembly, for provinces to form groups for the administration of such subjects as it was decided should be dealt with in common. To provide this opportunity the Mission proposed that the Constituent Assembly should divide up into sections, two of which were to cover the provinces which the Muslim League claimed should constitute Pakistan. These sections would settle provincial Constitutions and would decide whether a group Constitution should be framed for the provinces within the section, and if so for what subjects. Individual provinces were to be free to opt out of a group after the first election under the new Constitution. The intention of the Mission was that the decisions of sections should be taken by majority vote.

A difference of opinion developed between the Congress Party and the Muslim League as to the meaning of the Mission's statement on the question of the procedure within the sections of the Constituent Assembly, and it was largely because of misgivings in regard to this that the Muslim League withdrew its acceptance of the Mission's plan at the end of July. The Congress view was that provinces had a right to decide both as to grouping and as to their own Constitutions, and

that the decisions in the sections could not be by simple majority vote. The Congress stated that they were prepared to accept the ruling of the Federal Court as to the proper interpretation of the Mission's statement.

A similar statement was made by Lord Pethick-Lawrence in the House of Lords.

Dec. 12.—Sir Stafford Cripps, in a debate on the motion that the Government should take note of the Prime Minister's statement of Dec. 11 and express its hope that a settlement of the present difficulties between Indian parties would be forthcoming, said that the position had been made far worse by the outbreak of violence on a large scale. The riots in Calcutta, as a result of the Muslim League's decision to set aside Aug. 16 as "direct action day", had caused about 4,000 deaths and 10,000 other casualties. The outbreaks in Eastern Bengal on Oct. 10 had resulted in driving out 50,000 evacuees, and in more than 200 deaths. Even worse violence had followed in Bihar and spread to the United Provinces. It was impossible to give an accurate figure for the casualties in Bihar, but they were nearly all Muslims and many were women and children. It would not be an exaggeration to put the number of deaths at 5,000. Since the beginning of September there had been 445 deaths in the United Provinces, and Bombay communal outbreaks, from Sept. 2 to Nov. 18, had resulted in 622 deaths.

He did not wish, however, to give the impression that the position was hopeless. It was understood that Mr. Jinnah was prepared to put the matter before his Council to ascertain whether, after the statement of Dec. 6, they were prepared to enter the Assembly. He also stated that the numbers of the minorities were: the scheduled castes, 40 million; the Sikhs, 4,100,000; Indian Christians, 3,200,000; and Anglo-Indians, 114,000. As to the Cabinet Mission's proposal that the provisions for the protection of minorities should appear in the Constitution, a number of minority representatives had been elected to the Constituent Assembly: i.e. 6 Indian Christians, 3 Anglo-Indians, 29 scheduled castes of the Congress sponsoring, and 2 of the other sponsoring. The Sikhs had been dealt with as a major party in the Punjab, and had elected their own representatives. He added that the position of the Sikhs was difficult, as they had no majority in any province. It was impossible, therefore, to give them any form of autonomy, but they were a very important community.

Referring to the results of the elections, he said that in the provincial Assemblies 123 members were returned representing the Congress, 2 only representing Dr. Ambedkar's depressed classes, and all the rest Independents. In the Constituent Assembly there were 29 Congress scheduled castes and 2 others, one of them being Dr. Ambedkar. He was convinced that the scheme put forward in May was both fair and feasible, but no scheme could succeed without co-operation and a certain degree of tolerance. Whether it was in the Assembly itself or in the sections, neither community could force the other to accept its decisions unless there was sufficient mutual trust in the basic democratic intention of both parties. He still hoped they would accept the

scheme in the spirit as well as in the letter, since "we can see no other way by which the disaster of civil strife can be avoided. Neither has either party been able to suggest any alternative method which is acceptable to the other party".

The Secretary for the Colonies introduced the Malta (Reconstruction) Bill in Parliament, proposing that after the original grant of £10 million for the restoration of war damage was exhausted there should be paid further annual sums to the total of £20 million. The money could be used on public works of general reconstruction, as well as for repairing war damage.

General Smuts left England for S. Africa.

Dec. 13.—Mr. Alexander, replying to the debate on India, said that the Constituent Assembly would have to decide whether the depressed classes should be given separate representation in the new Constitution. He then declared that the Interim Government was not responsible to the Indian Legislature, nor were they bound to resign if defeated. If some members chose to resign because their policy was defeated, there was nothing to prevent them doing so, but it would not alter the position of the constitutional authority of the Viceroy until such time as Parliament approved the ceding of sovereignty. He emphasized that there had been no actual constitutional change, nor could there be without the Government coming to Parliament for authority.

The motion was agreed to without a division.

Dec. 14.—Mr. Jinnah, at a press conference, said that the Muslim League had been let down several times during recent negotiations. Ultimately a one-party Government was formed by Mr. Nehru, but in the League's own interests and because they thought that it would be highly detrimental to their interests if the Central Government was left to one party of Congress, they decided to accept what was imposed upon them and to nominate their quota of 5 members. Congress had made their intentions clear, that whatever the consequences, they were determined to act as a Cabinet responsible only to the Legislature, in which they had an overwhelming majority. This Interim Government "would go ahead with measures . . . which would stop completely the Muslim demand for Pakistan and separation. We cannot participate in this Constituent Assembly until and unless the Congress Party is prepared to accept the long-term scheme." He could not understand why the Government suggested taking legal advice on the interpretation of the statement of May 16, since they were the authors of it. "It is up to them to say what they meant, and that they meant what they said." If the Federal Court differed from their interpretation, the statement of Dec. 6 gave no hint of what they would do, and made no mention of what they intended to do about the Constituent Assembly. He said he still considered that the only practical solution was to divide India, and that the sooner the British Government realized that the better.

Mr. Jinnah left London for India.

Agreement signed with Czechoslovakia for the purchase of surplus goods. (see *Czechoslovakia*.)

The general council of the United Nations' Association, meeting in London, passed a resolution requesting the immediate appointment of a permanent court of justice for the trial of international crime and expressing the hope that the principles laid down at Nuremberg would be confirmed by the General Assembly of U.N.O.

The Secretary for the Colonies, speaking in London, said that £16,250,000 had been allocated for colonial development in the West Indies, £7,500,000 for Asia, £30,500,000 for West Africa, £16½ million for East Africa. A sum of £23,500,000 had been set aside for central services such as nutrition schemes, education, research, and training for the colonial service.

Dec. 16.—Lord Pethick-Lawrence, referring to India in the House of Lords, said that he wished to make it clear that the Government did not think it desirable that the controversy should be referred to the Federal Court. Their view was that the interpretation of the statement of May 16 should be accepted by all parties. He said it was not a question of law. Whatever the result if the Federal Court was appealed to the Government stood by their own interpretation.

Dec. 18.—Mr. McNeil announced in Parliament that Great Britain was to make an immediate grant up to a maximum of £8,500,000 to the Austrian Government for the purchase of such supplies as could be obtained in the U.K. and other countries agreed upon. In addition the Government guaranteed, under the Overseas Trade (Guarantees) Act of 1939, a commercial credit of £1,500,000 for the purchase of raw wool. The only conditions were that the principle of economic unity was maintained by the other occupying Powers, so that Austria could dispose of her resources to benefit the whole population.

Mr. Hynd said in Parliament that 60 plants in the British zone in Germany were scheduled for dismantling, 46 of which were concerned with armaments, 6 with machine tools, 2 with metallurgy, 3 with chemicals, and 3 with engineering and shipbuilding. This was 40 per cent of the total.

The Minister of State said in Parliament that the Japanese Government had come into office as the result of a general election in April. His information was that it was doing its best to co-operate with the Supreme Commander of the Allied Powers, and to deal in a democratic manner with the great problems of employment, labour, and rehabilitation. It was expected that a fresh general election would be held in 1947, and it would be an unnecessary interference with this democratic process to cause the Allied Council to intervene.

Dec. 19.—The Lord Chancellor, replying to questions in the House of Lords on the problem of displaced persons in Europe, said that a large number of persons had returned to their country of origin from the British zone in Germany during the past year. There were still about 400,000 persons in the zone, but that was about half the number that existed there in October, 1945. Arrangements were being made to admit 2,000 Baltic women to Great Britain for hospital work, and it had recently been found possible to reopen the Palestine immigration list to Jews in Germany who had relatives there.

Mr. Bevin and M. Molotov arrived in England from the U.S.A.

Dec. 20.—Mr. Attlee, in a statement in Parliament on Burma, said that the Government intended to invite a representative group of Burmese from the Governor's Executive Council to visit the U.K. for a discussion on Burmese independence. "It is for the people of Burma to decide their own future, but we are certain that it will be to their interest, as it will be to ours, if they decide to remain within the Commonwealth . . . Likewise, we consider that the new Constitution . . . should be settled by nationals of Burma." He believed this could be effected as a result of the forthcoming elections, without the necessity for holding fresh elections for a Constituent Assembly. The Government held the view that the Burmese Government should "exercise a full measure of authority". It was not possible to enact a new interim Constitution, "and the old Constitution must therefore be carried on in form, but H.M. Government have no desire to interfere with the day-to-day administration which is now in the hands of Burmese members of the Governor's Executive".

Mr. A. V. Alexander was appointed Minister of Defence.

M. Molotov left for Moscow.

Dec. 22.—Mr. Bevin, in a broadcast on the work of the Council of Foreign Ministers, said that one thing that had caused a great deal of controversy was the use of the power of veto. To solve this difficulty a conference of the 5 Powers who had the power to use the veto, was called to see if a code of conduct could be established. Although agreement was not reached, he said: "I am sure such a code of conduct will be adopted in practice. We are not abolishing the veto, but we are trying to modify its use; to let it serve the purpose for which it was originally intended." The future policy of Great Britain's relationships with the world was to be constructed on the basis of the U.N. Three objects would have to be achieved. "One is to make unnecessary the use of national armaments . . . Secondly, if international policy wins, then all scientific developments will be used for peaceful purposes. Instead of frontiers bristling with guns, we must attain a state of peace in which the mind of man is turned towards his economic and cultural development without fear. That is what freedom from fear really means." The third purpose was to make world natural resources available to all.

The peace treaties with Italy and the ex-satellites of Germany were ready for signature. Referring to the Trieste settlement, he said that "we have now left as few of the Italians as we could under Slav rule, and as few Slavs as we could under Italian rule". By the formation of an international zone under the U.N. "we have created a meeting ground at a port", where it was hoped trade would develop which would serve at least 70 million people in Europe. His policy was to work "to create conditions in which the different races can co-operate". Yugoslavia had a great task of reconstruction. Italy could rely on assistance from the Great Powers, but she must herself provide will and leadership on the part of her own democratic leaders. The Balkan countries could rest assured that if they desired trade they could

have it. He was glad that the treaties provided for no discrimination. As to Germany, the fusion of the British and American zones represented a practical beginning towards the solution of the difficulties. Conditions would be created which would allow the Germans to regain their self-respect, but this would take time. "Hitler so dulled his people that it will take at least a generation to get things right".

An agenda had been laid down for the Council of Foreign Ministers' meeting in Moscow on March 10, at which the economic and political future of Germany would be dealt with. He said that "we must avoid the creation of a cesspool of cheap and half-starved labour in Middle Europe", while at the same time ensuring that Germany could never again be a menace to the Allies. The problem of the size of the occupation forces in Germany, and how civil government could be built up, would be dealt with. An attempt would also be made to "finalize" the position of Austria by a new treaty.

Throughout all the negotiations "my colleagues and I have been striving to find an approximation of ideas between the Great Powers themselves". The U.S.A. showed a willingness to play her part in the creation and maintenance of a sound and effective international instrument, and "offered to enter into a 40-year treaty to make sure of the disarmament of Germany and Japan". The U.S.S.R., who had evolved an entirely different system, "now has to recreate herself again" owing to the terrible destruction she suffered in the war. France was also making her contribution, and China, though still torn by civil war, would eventually unite and contribute with her age-long philosophy and experience. Great Britain, developing rapidly her social democratic State . . . has, with the Commonwealth, a great contribution to make, and will still take her place as a great Power". Apart from bearing her part in the work of the peace-making and the shaping of U.N.O., she had pursued her "pacificatory and modernizing course in those parts of the world not directly affected by the Council of Foreign Ministers or by the U.N., where we have interests or influence". The Netherlands East Indies was a case in point, where British statesmanship had helped to promote an agreement between the Dutch and the Indonesians.

Referring to allegations that Great Britain was joined too closely in policy with the U.S.A. and that her relations with the U.S.S.R. were not as close as they should be, he said that Britain "does not tie herself to anybody, except in regard to her obligations under the Charter . . . and we have a mind and purpose of our own". He thought that the U.S.S.R. realized in New York that "there was a great desire for complete understanding, and that there is throughout the world a readiness to co-operate with her and see her develop her system in her own way, but with the recognition that others equally have the right to their own way of life".

Lord Wavell left for India.

The Government received a Note from Poland accusing Britain of violating the Potsdam agreement. It stated that Poland had given no particular promise as to how their elections should be conducted, and

it took special exception to the British Note of Nov. 22, stating that references in it to the conduct of the elections constituted a reflection on Polish sovereignty. It reiterated complaints as to the alleged continued existence of the former Polish Government in Great Britain, failure to demobilize Polish forces in Britain, delay in repatriation of Poles, and retention of Polish gold and of Polish warships assigned to the R.N. during the war.

Before the Italian trade mission left London a joint communiqué was issued stating that an understanding had been reached about the use of the Italian sterling balance in Great Britain for the purchase of raw materials such as rubber, wool, cotton, and petroleum products.

GREECE. *Dec. 8.*—Guerrillas attacked a train between Salonika and Alexandroupolis (Dedeagatch), killed the driver, and kidnapped 2 Army officers and 7 men.

Dec. 9.—Two destroyers and a landing craft left for Syrina with supplies for the Jews stranded on Syrina. The German generals Brauer and Mueller, in command in Crete in 1942-5, were sentenced to death in Athens for the mass murder of Cretans.

Dec. 10.—Government forces recaptured 5 outposts north of Korimvo, killing 40 guerrillas and driving some 400 over the Bulgarian frontier.

The Admiralty announced that the vessel wrecked on Syrina was called the *Athina*. Her crew was Greek and she was flying the Panama flag.

Dec. 13.—The acting Foreign Minister handed a Note to the British, U.S., French, and Russian representatives protesting against the rejection of the request for a readjustment of the frontier with Bulgaria.

General Smuts arrived in Athens.

Dec. 14.—Guerrillas attacked the railway line from Salonika to the Turkish frontier at Gallikos.

Dec. 15.—Guerrillas attacked the station at Mouries, near the Turkish frontier.

Dec. 16.—General Smuts left for South Africa.

Dec. 17.—Forty guerrillas surrendered at Kilkis, and to date over 300 were reported to have given themselves up. At Grevena, 25 rebels were killed when a band of 250 was ambushed.

Dec. 18.—As a protest against "the betrayal of Greek rights by the Allies", work ceased all over the country.

INDIA. *Dec. 9.*—The Constituent Assembly met for its first session. The 75 Muslim League members did not attend. Dr. Sinha was elected temporary chairman, and in his inaugural address said that the American Republican Constitution was universally regarded as the best in existence, and he was sure that members would pay great attention to its provisions in forming their own Constitution. It was essential that reasonable agreements and judicious compromises should be made.

Dec. 11.—Dr. Rajendra Prasad was elected permanent chairman of

the Assembly, and in his inaugural address said that they were determined to overcome all obstacles and suspicions by an attitude of unwavering fairness to all interests. The Assembly was a self-governing, self-determining body, whose decisions no outside authority could override. He considered it "most regrettable that many seats should be empty" and hoped that "our Muslim League friends will occupy them and participate in the great work of Constitution-making".

Mr. Attlee's statement in Parliament. (*see Great Britain*).

Dec. 13.—In the Assembly Pandit Nehru moved a resolution declaring that the Assembly was resolved to proclaim India as an independent sovereign republic, and proposing that there should be a union of British India, the Indian States, and such other territories as were willing to be constituted in an independent India. These territories should be autonomous units and exercise all powers and functions except those "assigned to the Union or inherent or implied in the Union or resulting therefrom". The Constitution should guarantee and secure to all people in India social, economic, and political justice, equality of status, of opportunity, and before the law, and freedom of thought, expression, belief, faith, worship, vocation, association, and action, subject to law and public morality. Adequate safeguards should be provided for minorities, backward and tribal areas, and depressed and other backward classes.

Pandit Nehru said he hoped the Muslim League members would come in later and let the House have the benefit of their co-operation. Meanwhile, it was the duty of those present to bear the absentees in mind and to function, not in a partisan spirit, but for the welfare of the 400 million in India. The resolution, he said, was not a part of the Constitution, and when others came in and joined them they would have perfect freedom to assist in framing it. Referring to the Princes, he said he did not believe in the monarchical system, which was a fast disappearing institution. It was conceivable, however, that certain States would wish to keep their monarchical forms and figureheads, and provided their people had a due share in the administration the Assembly would not impose anything upon any State against its will.

Of his visit to London he said he came back with disappointment, and it hurt him that "just when we were going ahead new obstructions and new limitations were placed in our way, and new methods of procedure were suggested. Whatever the legal aspect may be the trouble is that in the past there has been no understanding or imagination in the handling of the Indian problem. India today wants no one's advice . . . the slightest trace of patronage is resented. We seek the co-operation of England, which at this stage is full of suspicion".

British Government's motion *re* India agreed to by Parliament. (*see Great Britain*).

Dec. 14.—Mr. Jinnah's statement in London. (*see Great Britain*).

Dec. 15.—A statement was issued by 6 members of the States' negotiating committee in Delhi stating their regret at the resolution moved by Pandit Nehru on Dec. 13. It said that many fundamental issues were raised which should not be decided in the absence of

Indian States' representatives, and before the negotiations contemplated under the Cabinet Mission's plan had taken place between the States' negotiating committee, which had to be appointed by the British Indian portion of the Constituent Assembly. The resolution's determination to set up an independent sovereign republic, and its declaration that the power and authority of the sovereign independent India, its constituent parts and organs of government were derived from the people, were matters for discussion and consultation with the States' representatives in the forthcoming negotiations in connection with the framing of an agreed Constitution for India.

Pandit Nehru, speaking in Benares, said, "whatever form of constitution we may decide on in the Constituent Assembly will become the Constitution of free India—whether Britain accepts it or not. The British Government are thinking that the Constituent Assembly's decisions are not binding on them . . . We have now altogether stopped looking towards London. We know that we shall settle these decisions ourselves. We cannot, and will not, tolerate any outside interference".

Dec. 16.—Pandit Nehru presided over the annual meeting of the Associated Chamber of Commerce in Calcutta. Expressing his personal views, he said that India was economically strong and that he hoped trade with America would develop. Both countries needed each other "but we can hold out much longer than America can". Unless there was a serious break he saw no reason why trade relations with Britain should not continue. India would be attracted to those countries who showed her the most friendship at the present time. There were various safeguards for the protection of British interests, but it was obvious that no Indian Government would approve of safeguards, or any form of protection for foreign countries. "This colonial economy" would have to be abolished. Any Government would look after its own nationals, but there would be plenty of room for private enterprise for the British and others.

Mr. Jinnah's press statement in Egypt. (*see Egypt*).

Lord Pethick-Lawrence *re* India in the House of Lords. (*see Great Britain*).

Dec. 18.—Mr. Gandhi, speaking in Eastern Bengal, said the Assembly resolution had been moved after mature consideration, with due regard for justice to all communities.

Dec. 20.—The Muslim Brotherhood's support for the Muslim cause. (*see Egypt*).

Dec. 22.—The Congress Party working committee decided not to refer the controversy over the grouping of provinces to the Federal Court.

INDO-CHINA. Dec. 16.—The Viet-Nam Minister of National Defence sent a letter of protest to the French Commander about "the incidents provoked . . . by French troops at Hanoi".

Dec. 17.—Further fighting occurred at Hanoi and at Cuchi, in Cochinchina.

Dec. 18.—French parachute troops killed some 25 Viet-Nam soldiers at Hanoi.

Dec. 19.—French troops in Hanoi seized the finance and communications offices of Viet-Nam. Fighting continued in Hanoi and near Saigon in spite of the Viet-Nam Minister of the Interior's letter to General Morlière stating that his Government hoped to reach agreement with the French. The French Commissioner in Tongking was wounded.

Dec. 20.—Fighting spread to Hué and other towns near Hanoi. General Morlière issued a proclamation informing the people that the Viet-Nam Government had fled and that the French authorities had taken over. A curfew was imposed.

Dec. 21.—French headquarters at Saigon announced that Viet-Nam forces were in control of the post office building.

Dec. 22.—Widespread fighting continued throughout the provinces of Tongking and northern Annam. A small detachment of French troops in Vinh surrendered to Viet-Nam forces. French casualties were said to number 50 killed and about 150 wounded since Dec. 20 in and around Hanoi.

ITALY. *Dec. 10.*—G.H.Q., Central Mediterranean Forces, announced serious anti-Allied demonstrations in Padua. The city was placed out of bounds to all Allied troops.

Dec. 11.—Rioting continued in Padua, and the Ansa news agency reported a pitched battle in the streets between Italians and British soldiers. The prefect was summoned to G.H.Q. and informed that if he failed to keep order, strong measures would be taken by the Allied military authorities.

Dec. 12.—General Smuts arrived in Rome and had a conversation with the Prime Minister.

Dec. 13.—The Allied military authorities of Padua asked the Municipal Council to pay 12 million lire for damages.

Dec. 14.—The Uomo Qualunque Party changed its name to "Liberal Democratic Front of Uomo Qualunque".

Dec. 17.—All workers in Naples went on strike as a protest against the increased cost of living.

Dec. 19.—The strikers returned to work as the result of a Government decision to stabilize prices until Jan. 31.

Dec. 20.—The Ambassador was recalled from Madrid in order to conform with the recommendations of U.N.O.

Dec. 20.—The Government received from the U.S. Treasury a first quota of \$51 million to cover part of the U.S. occupation expenses.

Dec. 22.—Trade agreement with France. (*see France.*)

Trade mission's visit to London. (*see Great Britain.*)

JAPAN. *Dec. 18.*—Statement in Parliament on the Japanese Government. (*see Great Britain.*)

Dec. 21.—An earthquake struck central Japan and the island of Shikoku, causing damage over an area 400 miles long by 150 wide.

KOREA. *Dec. 12.*—The Legislative Assembly in the U.S. zone opened.

THE NETHERLANDS. *Dec. 10.*—The Minister of Overseas Territories announced in Parliament the Cabinet's decision to authorize the Commissioner-General to sign the Cheribon Agreement. The declaration read by the Minister said that nothing had been decided about the central organization of the United States of Indonesia, nor about their responsibility or powers. "The Netherlands State will become a Netherlands-Indonesian Union, whose members will co-operate on a federal scale . . . Co-operation through the Union agencies in the fields of foreign relations, defence, finance, economic, and cultural relations will be aimed at."

Dec. 16.—It was officially announced that the Government had decided to recall its Minister from Madrid.

Dec. 20.—The Second Chamber, by 65 votes to 30, authorized the Government's signature to the Cheribon Agreement.

NEW ZEALAND. *Dec. 20.*—The Caucus elected Mr. E. L. Cullen to be Minister of Agriculture and Marketing; Mr. F. Hackett to take the portfolios of postmaster-generalship, Public Trust office, and Government insurance departments; and Mr. McLagan of Labour, Mines and Employment.

NORWAY. *Dec. 11.*—A 2 years' trade pact was concluded with the Soviet Union and a mutual exchange agreement for 1947.

PALESTINE. *Dec. 9.*—The Jewish Agency thanked the Government for the help given to the immigrants stranded on Syrina. Supplies were dropped for them by the R.A.F., and assistance was also sent from Greece. (*see Greece*).

Opening of the World Zionist Congress. (*see International Conferences*).

The Jewish Agency thanked the Government for the help given to the Jews stranded at Syrina. Supplies were dropped there by the R.A.F. Assistance was also sent from Greece. (*see Greece*).

Opening of the World Zionist Congress. (*see International Conferences*).

Dec. 10.—A British destroyer and a minesweeper took off the 730 Jews on Syrina, and a Greek vessel took 8 sick people to hospital at Rhodes.

British warships took off all the Jews at Syrina except 8, who were sent to hospital in Rhodes.

Dec. 11.—The Government, in response to requests by the Jewish Agency, decided to allow the women and children at Syrina to be brought to Palestine.

An Arab village near Jaffa was raided by a band of Jews. A Jewish youth of 16 was sentenced to 18 years' imprisonment and 18 lashes for firing on members of the staff of the Ottoman Bank.

The Government allowed the women and children from Syrina to be brought to Palestine, while the men were taken to Suda Bay, *en route* for Cyprus.

Dec. 12.—The Arab Higher Committee called for a general strike on Dec. 15 "to protect Arab rights and existence". The Committee also sent two messages to the High Commissioner, protesting against continued illegal immigration and Jewish provocation.

Dec. 15.—Irgun Zvai Leumi broadcast that all British officers in its hands would be punished with 18 strokes of the cane if the sentence passed on the 16-year-old youth on Dec. 11 was carried out.

Dec. 16.—The Government announced that more than 11,500 Jews who tried to enter Palestine illegally during the past year had been granted immigration certificates from last year's quota of 18,000.

PERSIA. *Dec. 9.*—Tabriz radio again asserted that Government troops had attacked the borders of Azerbaijan, and that aircraft were bombing Kurd villages.

Dec. 10.—Teheran radio announced that the Prime Minister had sent a message to the Governor-General of Azerbaijan saying that he had ordered the security forces to "move forward and to smash any armed resistance. I expect that on this occasion, too, you will show the same interest and responsibility which you have shown in the solution of past difficulties. The entry of troops . . . should take place without incident and there should be no postponement of the elections".

Government forces moved into Azerbaijan from Zenjan and Takab. The 2 columns, meeting only slight opposition, reached Mianeh and the outskirts of Masimulagh.

Dec. 11.—Government forces entered Tabriz and had an enthusiastic welcome. The Governor-General telegraphed to the Shah and the Prime Minister saying that "the Persian army is welcome in Azerbaijan". The central committee of the "Democratic" Party broadcast that the Azerbaijani wished to settle their problems amicably. They were in favour of holding the elections at the earliest possible date. "We have agreed to the arrival of the troops for the protection of the procedure of the elections because we want the fate of the Persian people to be settled in the Majlis to come into being as a result of the elections, and nowhere else." Mr. Pishevari and other leaders of the "Democratic" Party fled across the Russian frontier.

Dec. 17.—Government forces entered the port of Astara, on the Caspian. Polling for the elections was again postponed.

Dec. 19.—The Prime Minister, announcing that the elections would begin on Dec. 21, emphasized that the electoral control council had been given authority to ensure absolutely free voting. The country's salvation, he added, lay in the centralization of all power in the hands of one united national party.

POLAND. *Dec. 9.*—The Peasant Party published its electoral appeal, entering the electoral campaign independently. It stated that while accepting the need for nationalizing the main industries, the Party

demanding the fullest guarantees for private enterprise and private property; also guarantees for personal liberties, freedom of the press, public meetings, religion, and the absolute independence of the courts. It stated that the security police should be placed under the authority of the State, and, finally, it emphasized the country's need to maintain alliance and friendship with the Soviet Union and for co-operation with the Western democracies and U.N.O.

Dec. 13.—It was officially announced in Warsaw that 6 district branches of the Peasant Party had been closed by the police owing to the members being in contact or engaged with underground movements, or other illegal and criminal activities. A number of arrests were made. (Altogether 24 branch offices had been closed.)

Dec. 15.—M. Mikolajczyk, in a statement to the foreign press, accused the authorities of arresting about 10,000 members of his party, chiefly from the areas around Cracow and Poznan. Many of them were election candidates. The authorities admitted that many arrests had taken place, but said they were due to members' contact with illegal organizations and not because they were members of the Peasant Party. Reports from several districts, notably Bialystok and Lubin, stated that there had been many terrorist attacks against election committees, often resulting in the murder of the chairman or members of a committee.

PORTUGAL. *Dec. 18.*—The Government granted a special political statute to Portugese India giving it the status of a metropolitan province.

SOUTH AFRICA. *Dec. 17.*—Gen. Smuts arrived in Johannesburg from Greece.

Dec. 18.—Gen. Smuts, in a broadcast, said that in U.N.O. debates talk was out of all proportion to result and the Organization had much to learn. On the subject of the Soviet attitude towards the veto in the Security Council he hoped that the outcry in the Assembly would have its effect, "otherwise lack of confidence in the Council will continue to grow and it will come to be looked upon as no real means of security so long as any great Power can arbitrarily veto measures to prevent the outbreak of war. The present uncertainty will discredit not only the Security Council but U.N.O. itself, and sooner or later lead to its decay". As to Russia's "breath-taking change of front" on disarmament, details still had to be worked out, and they could only hope there would be no snags in settling them.

He said that in the actions taken about S.-W. Africa and the Indian problem "we found a solid mass prejudice against the colour policies of South Africa . . . Inflammable issues of race and colour swept over the multiple Assembly in a flood of emotion formed by mischievous propaganda and created a situation which only calm reflection can bring to reality and proper perspective. The Union Government is determined to maintain at least the position given it under the Mandate and to discharge the trust it has undertaken to the inhabitants of S.-W. Africa and to the Union itself, to whose security S.-W. Africa is essential". As to the treatment of the Indians the Assembly

had struck at the very foundations on which U.N.O. was established under the Charter. It had assumed implicitly the guilt of the Union and denied it the most fundamental right of access to the International Court. He ended by saying "the unwavering support of the U.K., in spite of its own difficulties, on the subjects of the Indian complaint and S.-W. Africa is a matter for profound satisfaction which the people of the Union are not likely to forget".

Dec. 20.—General Smuts, speaking in Pretoria, said that hitherto Europeans had ruled the world, but if U.N.O.'s idea of equality was applied to South Africa the country would be placed in a difficulty as the European community was very small. There were 2 million Europeans in a population of 150 million. The demand for equality raised a situation not only new, but which did not fit the facts in South Africa and other countries. Equality in that sense did not prevail anywhere else in the world. "As long as we in South Africa conform not on abstract ideas but on concepts of justice and fair play we need not be ashamed". He remarked, however, that there was a great tendency "to look merely at a man's skin and judge him on that".

SPAIN. *Dec. 9.*—Mass parades in protest against the policy towards Spain of the U.N.O. countries took place in Madrid and other cities. Gen. Franco, speaking in Madrid, said that the parades were "a comprehensive answer to those who are attempting to interfere in our affairs". Spanish interests did not clash with the interests of other nations. The day was proclaimed a public holiday.

Dec. 15.—The Government issued a Note declaring that the U.N. decision was one which most of the nations would have reason to regret within a short time. Gen. Franco, speaking at the Military Academy at Saragossa, said the frontier had been violated by armed bands, and they must be ready to defend peace. Spain was 10 years ahead of other nations in moral standing and social evolution.

Dec. 22.—Death sentences were passed on 2 men, another was sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment, and his wife to 8 years by a military court for taking part in guerrilla warfare. Extracts from letters, diaries, and underground newspapers were read in court showing that peasants were incited to terrorism by Communist envoys from abroad.

THE SUDAN. *Dec. 9.*—British statement *re* the Governor-General's statement and Egyptian reply. (*see Great Britain*).

TURKEY. *Dec. 17.*—The Government announced the arrest of more than 70 members of the "Socialist Party of Workers and Peasants", and "the Socialist Party of Turkey" in the area in and around Istanbul, the Straits, and Thrace, on the ground that they were engaged in Communist activities. The 2 organizations were banned and 6 newspapers suppressed. Two other publications, *Yarin* and *Buyuk Dogu*, were suspended for 4 months.

U.S.A. *Dec. 14.*—Mr. Bevin and M. Molotov left New York for

England. Mr. Bevin said to the press, "We can now proceed to lay the foundations of a durable peace".

Dec. 16.—The President approved a system of a single command, either Army or Navy, in each area where U.S. forces were operating.

Dec. 17.—Mr. Byrnes informed the press that the British Government had asked for 150,000 tons of grain in January, but it had been agreed that between 134,000 and 135,000 tons should be sent.

Dec. 18.—The President, in a statement on policy towards China, said that he still believed that a united democratic China was of the utmost importance to world peace, and he reiterated his statement of December, 1945. The Export and Import Bank had earmarked \$500 million for possible additional credits, but this remained unexpended. China had received \$870 million before V.J. Day from Lend-Lease aid, and this had amounted to \$600 million since. The peak strength of U.S. forces in China was 113,000, but this had been reduced to less than 12,000. General Marshall had remained, although negotiations had been broken off by the Communists, because of the importance of reaching a solution of the problem. The plans for political and for military unification in China made in February were sound, but implementation had been difficult owing to the fighting since April. He concluded: "We believe that our hopes for China are identical with what the Chinese people themselves most earnestly desire."

Dec. 19.—The President announced that he was taking steps to facilitate the transport of displaced persons from European ports to the U.S.A. It had been hoped that up to 39,000 such persons could have been admitted during 1946, but owing to shipping difficulties only 4,767 had arrived by October. Three ships had therefore been specially allocated to act as a transport service.

U.S.S.R. *Dec. 9.*—*Pravda*, in an article on Dr. Schumacher's visit to Great Britain, said that "he has been successfully splitting the working classes, undermining German democracy, and pleasing the right-wing nationalistic elements in Germany. He has led the persecution of Communists in the Western zone and used base methods from Goebbels' arsenal". The reception he received in London was such as was only given to representatives of foreign Governments, and "the festivity in London has a threatening side. We see how the new Führer is being created; he is being created on the eve of the international discussion of the German question".

Dec. 11.—Trade pact signed with Norway. (see Norway).

Dec. 21.—M. Molotov and M. Vyshinsky arrived in Moscow.

YUGOSLAVIA. *Dec. 22.*—The former chief of the Gestapo in Serbia and 9 other senior officials were sentenced to be hanged for their responsibility for the death of 5,000 persons during the occupation. Nine other officials were sentenced to be shot and 2 were sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

Dec. 9.—The World Zionist Congress was opened in Basle by Dr. Weizmann. He deplored the attitude of Great Britain; he had hoped that the situation would improve with the Labour Party in power, but this had not happened. The moment the British Government undertook to carry out the provisions of the Mandate in the spirit and letter, however, the strain would cease. In Palestine the results achieved by the Jews showed that the country's absorptive capacity could expand far more rapidly than the experts had predicted. The work of Zionism in Palestine had brought no injury to the Arab people, and Zionists wished to bring Jewish efforts into harmony with the widest interests of the Middle East.

He paid a tribute to President Truman and the U.S. Government, and then went on to refer to the acts of terrorism. Recalling early struggles and unfulfilled promises, he said it was difficult to restrain the younger people, but it was imperative that kidnapping and murder should cease. The establishment of a Jewish State was justified by the Mandate, and they could not contemplate a solution that fell short of that claim. That was the only means of absorbing the 1,250,000 Jews surviving in Europe. The immediate immigration of 100,000 Jews from Europe was a project well capable of early fulfilment.

If the Mandatory Power was unable to fulfil the main conditions of its trust, the only alternative was to devise a settlement in which the purposes of the Mandate would be fulfilled. Before retiring Britain should vest the national home with the full authority and status of a Jewish State. This would also offer the Arabs finality and would establish the possibility of an equal and dignified relationship between Jews and Arabs.

Dec. 10.—Dr. Weizmann was re-elected president of the Zionist Congress by 191 votes to 48, with 136 abstentions. Mr. Ben-Gurion said that a Jewish State could only be based on a democratic system in which there would be full equality of political and religious rights. Jews outside the State would be citizens of the countries in which they lived. The new State would need to have sovereign opportunities for exploiting to the full the economic possibilities of Palestine. If conversations with the British Government were reopened, full rights for the whole country would be demanded, and he added, "We do not approach Britain as mendicants seeking charity. We demand that which is our due. Palestine does not belong to Britain, nor is it a part of the British Empire. Britain has no right to do with it as she wishes". He said they were prepared to discuss a compromise arrangement if the decrease of the area allotted to the Jewish State was to be compensated by an immediate increase of their rights and powers and the granting to them of sovereign independence, and on condition that the area of the State should be adequate for immigration and settlements on a scale large enough to solve the problem.

The first general conference of U.N.E.S.C.O. ended in Paris.

The sixth session of U.N.R.R.A. met in Washington. The acting

Secretary of State said that the end of its task was approaching, as European countries were starting to produce their own goods. He told the press that it was impossible to say what countries would get relief in 1947, but it was probable that something would have to be done for Greece, Italy, and Austria. It was hoped that other producer countries would join in the relief plan. He added that an assurance would have to be given that the funds or supplies would be used for the purpose for which they were intended. This had not always been the case.

Dec. 11.—In the Zionist Congress the Revisionists attacked the policy of the executive committee.

Dec. 12.—Mr. Shertok, referring to the Revisionist attack on the policy of the executive, said that they had a clear choice; either they must bring the terrorist organization into the fold of the national discipline they were defying, or they would have to disavow them unequivocally.

Dec. 16.—Dr. Weizmann told the Zionist Congress that as they could not have a Jewish State for the whole of Palestine they should work for it in an adequate part of Palestine. After declaring that the murder of Lord Moyne was one of the greatest catastrophies that could have happened to them, he asked those who wanted them to abandon Britain and look for help elsewhere, who wanted to take over the Mandate? They had nothing to hope for in a change in orientation. The Balfour Declaration said "a home in Palestine", and not "Palestine as a home", and they could not get away from the fact that the British made this interpretation their own.

The plenary session of the Inter-Governmental Committee on Refugees opened in London. The director stated that the newly created International Refugee Organization should be in operation by the end of June, 1947, when U.N.R.R.A.'s responsibility for displaced persons' camps would cease.

Dec. 18.—At the Zionist Congress the treasurer to the Jewish Agency presented the budget for the current year, amounting to £P15 million, compared with £P6 million in 1945, and £P160,000 in 1933. He said that the Palestine Government had been unhelpful and obstructive in the economic development of the country, and had done nothing to alleviate the effects of outside interference. Jewish trade was unfairly treated in the matter of import and export licences. They were granted arbitrarily by the Government, which was actuated by political considerations and a desire to do the best for British rather than Palestine industries. During 1947 U.S. Jews had undertaken to raise \$170 million for the united Jewish appeal and for the Zionist central fund.

Dec. 20.—The Inter-Governmental Committee on Refugees, at its final meeting, recommended the adoption of an operational budget of £3 million. Italy was admitted as a member.

Dec. 22.—Zionist labour organizations decided, by 89 votes to 30, to recommend the re-election of Dr. Weizmann as president of the World Zionist Organization.

THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Dec. 10.—The Council dealt with the Greek complaint that Albania, Bulgaria, and Yugoslavia were aiding the guerrillas, and a letter from the Greek delegation to U.N.O. outlining a series of violations of the frontier in the past 3 months. After a dispute on procedure—as to whether Albania and Bulgaria should take part in the discussion of the matter—a motion was proposed by M. Gromyko that all 4 countries be invited to send representatives to take part, but was supported only by Russia, Poland, and Mexico. Another, proposed by the Dutch delegate, was agreed to, proposing that representatives of Greece and Yugoslavia be invited to take part, without vote, that representatives of Albania and Bulgaria be invited to make statements to the Council, and that, if the Council found later that the matter was a dispute and not merely a situation, the two last-named be invited to take part.

Dec. 12.—The Council voted unanimously to admit Siam to U.N.O. It then heard representatives of Greece, Albania, Bulgaria, and Yugoslavia, and M. Tsaldaris said that Greece had not felt it excessive, after her war experiences, to claim “a few mountain crests” which would remove the menace of surprise attacks in the north. She was today experiencing a state of undeclared war, and every day tens of her sons were dying to preserve liberty and territorial integrity because they refused to discard the cultural traditions and ethnological structure of Greece and would not submit to demands contrary to the fundamental principles of the United Nations. The purpose of the warlike activity against them was to sunder from Greece a region that was Greek, and to set up in Greece a régime opposed to the wishes of the majority. The plans followed had two tactical aspects: intense propaganda for incorporating Greek Macedonia in Yugoslav Macedonia, and active assistance to insurgent bands, which were using Yugoslavia, Albania, and Bulgaria as bases for raids.

The aim of the propaganda was to represent certain Greek regions as unredeemed Slav territory, though only a small part of the peoples had Yugoslav or Bulgarian leanings, and to denounce Greece as a persecutor of the Slavonic-speaking element. The alleged persecution had been refuted on Aug. 21, 1945 by Mr. Bevin, who had recognized that neither investigation on the spot nor the reports of military authorities confirmed such charges.

The Yugoslav Ambassador said that what the situation really required was investigation of conditions inside Greece. The responsibility for the civil war really rested with the régime in Greece which was contrary to the feelings of the people, and the civil war was traceable to the political mistakes made since the war ended. The plebiscite to restore the monarchy had not aroused any enthusiasm in the democratic world and the monarchy drew its basic support from elements known as collaborationists during the war. His Government regarded the developments in Greece as a danger to peace.

Dec. 16.—The Council heard the Albanian, Bulgarian, and Yugoslav spokesmen on the Greek complaints, the last-named representative

describing some of the Greek Premier's statements the previous week as "untruthful, unscrupulous, and malicious". M. Tsaldaris described some of the statements of his opponents as "insult and raillery in default of reasoned argument". It was decided that if Albania and Bulgaria were given full rights of participating in the discussion they should also accept the obligations of the Charter for the pacific settlement of disputes. Albania agreed.

Dec. 18.—The U.S. delegation proposed that a commission be sent before Jan. 15 to investigate alleged violations of the frontiers between Greece and Albania, Bulgaria, and Yugoslavia. The British delegate supported it, provided investigation was made on both sides of the frontier. He believed the Greek Government was agreeable to this.

Dec. 19.—Mr. Gromyko, referring to the Greek situation, said that the root of the trouble lay in the exclusion from the Greek Government of "democratic" forces and the presence in the administration of former collaborators with the enemy, and also in foreign intervention through the presence of foreign troops. He was not opposed to the Commission of investigation proposed in the U.S. resolution, but put forward an amendment broadening the Commission's terms of reference to include the whole of Greece, as well as such border territories of Albania, Bulgaria, and Yugoslavia as the Commission might consider necessary.

The Council voted to send a commission to investigate alleged border violations involving Greece and her neighbours. The U.S. resolution was adopted, limiting the investigation to "northern Greece and such other parts of Greece, Albania, Bulgaria, and Yugoslavia as the Commission considers should be included in its investigations".

THE COUNCIL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS

Dec. 11.—The Ministers decided that the 5 treaties should be initialled in Paris on Feb. 10. They agreed to appoint a financial commission to go to Trieste to investigate the short-term financial arrangements for the Free Territory and report to the Ministers by Feb. 20. They also agreed to the appointment of a commission of inquiry into the Italian colonies, and adopted the agenda for their talks in Moscow on Germany. Special deputies were to be appointed to prepare German and Austrian treaties, and they would meet in London on Jan. 14. The agenda for the Moscow meeting included the preparation of a peace treaty, the U.S. disarmament and demilitarization treaty, the form and scope of the provisional organization for Germany, etc., and the treaty with Austria.

Dec. 12.—The Ministers agreed to instruct their representatives on the Security Council to meet to consider candidates for the governorship of the Free Territory of Trieste, and signed a protocol pledging their Governments to take all measures to assure the appointment by the Security Council of a Governor so that the announcement might be simultaneous with the entry into force of the Italian treaty. They also agreed on the text of a declaration concerning their agreement to call a conference to frame the Danubian Convention within 6 months of the coming into force of the Hungarian and Balkan treaties.

Several details regarding Trieste were also settled, e.g. the currency to be used, the composition of the commission to investigate the economic and Customs prospects there, and the rights of Italians as regards their personal property.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF U.N.O.

Dec. 9.—The political committee voted on the resolution on Spain, adopting unanimously the preamble, containing the parts of the U.S., Polish, and Belgian proposals condemning the Franco régime. It accepted by 32 votes to 5, with 8 abstentions, the clause recommending that Spain be debarred from membership of U.N. agencies until a new and acceptable Government was formed.

Senator Connally moved an amendment to the clause recommending severance of diplomatic relations, appealing to Franco to hand over his powers to a provisional Government so that elections could be held. He said it was for the President and the Secretary of State to decide whether they would act on the recommendation to sever relations, and America must reserve her attitude in the matter. Denouncing intervention, he said, "it is in the doctrine of non-intervention that small nations have a haven of protection against strong and powerful ones who might interfere in their affairs". The U.S. amendment was lost, the voting being 22 on each side with 6 abstentions. The recommendation to break off diplomatic relations was lost by a tie vote — 20 to 20.

The Belgian proposal to recall envoys from Madrid was adopted, the first part by 26 votes to 8, with 16 abstentions, and the second by 27 to 7, with 16 abstentions. It read: "The Assembly recommends that if within a reasonable time the political conditions enumerated above (end of the Franco régime) are not realized the Security Council shall consider adequate measures to be taken to remedy the situation; and recommends that members of U.N.O. immediately recall from Madrid their Ambassadors and Ministers accredited there." Britain and the U.S.A. both abstained in the vote on the first part. The committee then adopted the sub-committee's recommendation, as amended, as a whole by 23 votes to 4, with 20 abstentions. A French motion that members of U.N.O. should refuse to import foodstuffs from Spain until they were assured that they were not needed for the Spanish people was rejected by 32 votes to 10, with 4 abstentions.

In the disarmament sub-committee a clause was approved calling on all States to give every assistance to the Security Council and the Atomic Energy Commission. Sir Hartley Shawcross submitted an amendment, to include in the resolution a reference to organization of the U.N.O. armed forces under Article 3, and reiterated that arms reduction was not practicable except in the framework of a scheme which offered collective protection, but M. Vyshinsky argued that the reference to Article 43 was irrelevant. The Australian delegate disagreed, saying that the facts of life, of which the Security Council would have to take account, were that no State could accept proposals for arms reduction unless and until collective security had been provided.

The French delegate insisted on his amendment, which linked a reference to the fulfilment of Article 43 with "a progressive and balanced withdrawal of forces stationed in non-national territories and the demobilization of national forces". This was enlarged to include

3 ideas — fulfilment of Article 43; the reduction of forces in non-national territories; and the early withdrawal from U.N. States of troops stationed there without their consent. The drafting committee was instructed to put the 3 ideas into suitable words.

The committee rejected, by 32 votes to 21, the S. African amendment asking the Assembly to take an advisory opinion from the International Court on the question of jurisdiction in respect of Indians in S. Africa, and adopted, by 32 votes to 15, the resolution informing S. Africa that its treatment of Indians should be in "conformity with the international obligations under agreements concluded between the two Governments and the relevant provision of the Charter". India was supported by France, China, the Arab States, and Russia.

The trusteeship committee decided that the Economic and Social Council should convene periodically regional conferences of non-self-governing peoples to allow them to express their wishes and aspirations; also that the Secretary-General should convene an *ad hoc* committee to make recommendations on the basis of information which the colonial Powers had undertaken to submit annually on their non-self-governing territories. It also decided to call on S. Africa to submit a trusteeship agreement. All these decisions were taken at the instance of Russia or India.

Dec. 10.—The political committee adopted, by 34 votes to 7, the resolution regarding the reporting by all States of the size of their forces both at home and abroad. Sir Hartley Shawcross asked why M. Molotov had argued that the inclusion of home forces would distract attention from forces abroad; was it because Russia's home army was so large that the figures would shock the world? He pointed out that nothing caused more anxiety than large and possibly standing armies stationed in home territories.

Senator Connally upheld the resolution as it stood, and, referring to M. Molotov's argument that the inclusion of the home troop census would delay reports of troops abroad, said the only thing he knew about was "the procrastination of the Soviet — not for an hour, not for a day, not for a month, not for a year, but for ever — on the subject of reporting the number of their troops in their own territory". America was willing to reveal full information about her forces, and demanded that other nations show the same willingness. Sir Hartley accepted the challenge and said Britain would disclose full particulars of her armaments the moment an adequate system of verification had been set up — an international system — a system opposed consistently until about a month ago by the Soviet delegation.

M. Vyshinsky wanted the words "and armaments" inserted wherever troops were mentioned, and Sir Hartley then invited M. Molotov to say that he was prepared "to agree now to the establishment within the framework of the Security Council of international machinery that can operate not through a national but international agency, which will have the task of controlling and supervising information not only about troops but about armaments in the Soviet Republic". M. Molotov declared, "You are late: we have submitted such a proposal long ago",

and Sir Hartley said that if that was so, they were all agreed about the matter.

M. Molotov said that if the British amendment was modified to include verification both of troops and armaments he would vote for it—but not otherwise. Sir Hartley replied, "We are going to come to an agreement on establishing a real international commission for the supervision and inspection of armed forces and armaments of every Power". He moved an amendment for a supervisory commission, not subject to the veto, to verify on the spot any or all of the information submitted as to forces or armaments. The system to be established by Jan. 15.

M. Molotov rejected consideration of this as being "confused and intended to prevent us from adopting a decision on this question (troop census) which we are discussing", and argued that it suggested "that we shall undertake to-night to revise the Charter". Eventually he accepted it "in principle".

Dec. 11.—The Headquarters Committee of U.N.O. received an offer from Mr. John Rockefeller of \$8,500,000 to buy property in Manhattan for its headquarters.

The sub-committee drafting body met, and M. Spaak suggested that the inventory of troops be dropped altogether. It had been superseded by the clause of the resolution to which everyone had agreed—the one recommending that member States should withdraw their forces stationed abroad without the consent of the countries in which they were, and that forces at home should be reduced correspondingly and a general progressive reduction of all forces carried out. He suggested, instead of the inventory, a clause asking the Security Council and members of U.N.O. to report to the next Assembly what had been done to carry out the recommendations about withdrawal of forces abroad and reduction of those at home.

In the disarmament sub-committee, later, M. Vyshinsky refused to accept this suggestion.

In the trusteeship committee the British delegate, dealing with a Soviet amendment to exclude from the agreements a phrase implying that trustee territories would be administered as "an integral part" of the administering authorities' territory, said that as to Togoland and the Cameroons the original Mandate instructed the mandatory Power to administer them as integral parts of their adjacent territories (the Gold Coast and Nigeria), and that policy had been carried out. Only in that way could their political, economic, and social evolution be secured.

The French, Belgian, Australian, and New Zealand delegates also said they wished to adhere to the agreements as just drafted. The Soviet Union and India disagreed and said the agreements violated the spirit of the Charter.

Later, 8 agreements recommended by Britain, France, Belgium, and Australia were approved by 35 votes to 8. The committee also adopted the report bearing on the future of S.-W. Africa, which included a resolution asking for the rejection of any solution involving the incorporation of the territory into the Union.

In the plenary session the Assembly adopted unanimously a recommendation that the Economic and Social Council should give favourable consideration to the establishment of economic commissions for Europe and Asia and the Far East.

The Assembly adopted, by 34 votes to 6, with 13 abstentions, a resolution barring the Franco régime from all U.N. functions, calling upon members to remove the heads of their diplomatic missions from Madrid, and instructing the Security Council to take up the matter if "within a reasonable period" the régime was not removed. The British delegation disapproved of the threat implicit in the reference to the Council, and asked that the resolution be voted on clause by clause.

Dec. 12.—The disarmament sub-committee agreed unanimously on the text of the resolution to be sent forward to the political committee.

Dec. 13.—The Assembly adopted the resolution on voting procedure in the Security Council by 36 votes to 6. The resolution recommended permanent members to consult together and with other members to ensure that the special voting privileges of permanent members did not impede the Council in reaching decisions promptly, and advocated the development of practices and procedures consistent with the Charter to assist in reducing difficulties in the application of the veto in the light of views on the matter which had been expressed during the Assembly session.

The political committee adopted unanimously the resolution on disarmament, security, and international control and inspection. M. Molotov said it was only the first step on a difficult road, and Sir Hartley Shawcross said that the extent to which it would be implemented by the Security Council would depend on the continuance of confidence and co-operation between the great Powers. Mr. Bevin said that provided that the census of troops was for the purposes of the Charter the U.K. Government would give any information required, and Mr. Byrnes gave the committee the details of U.S. forces abroad.

Dec. 14.—The Assembly adopted the disarmament resolution unanimously, and suppressed the one calling for an immediate inventory of all the world's forces. Instead it adopted one calling on the Security Council to determine the information which States should furnish to give effect to the provisions of the disarmament resolution.

It also approved 8 trustee agreements submitted by 5 Powers for mandated territories. The formation of the Trusteeship Council was completed by the addition of Mexico and Iraq to the trustee Powers for 3 years and the permanent members of the Security Council. The Soviet Union and its supporters refused to take part in its formation because it felt the agreements were not in accordance with the Charter in that the approval of "States directly interested" had not been secured. The Council was composed of Britain, France, Belgium, Australia, New Zealand, the U.S.S.R., China, the U.S.A., Iraq, and Mexico. A Cuban proposal was also accepted inviting colonial Powers to organize periodical regional conferences of non-self-governing peoples. (This replaced the resolution empowering the Economic and Social Council to organize political conferences in colonies).

The headquarters' committee's decision to make New York the site of U.N.O. premises was adopted by 46 votes to 7 (Australia, the 5 Arab States, and El Salvador).

The Assembly also rejected S. Africa's request for the incorporation of S.-W. Africa, and recommended that the territory be placed under international trusteeship. There were 9 abstentions, but no opposing votes.

Dec. 15.—The Assembly rejected a proposal by the Soviet delegation to secure for the World Federation of Trade Unions a status in relation to the Economic and Social Council superior to that of Governments not members of the Council, but adopted, despite strong U.S. and British opposition, a resolution giving the W.F.T.U. the right to submit questions for insertion in the agenda of the Council. It then adopted, by a large majority, a motion agreeing to the principle that other non-governmental organizations, such as the International Chamber of Commerce and the U.S. Federation of Labour, should get equal treatment. (France and the Slav States opposed it and the Soviet abstained.)

Dec. 16.—The Assembly adjourned, after approving, by 30 votes to 5 (the Slavs), the establishment of the International Refugee Organization, with a budget of \$160 million. M. Gromyko objected that refugees' camps were centres of malicious propaganda against Russia, and said that U.N.O. ought not to help those with Nazi tendencies who did not seek aid from their own countries. The Assembly also adopted the recommendation that Siam be admitted to membership, bringing the number to 55.

Dec. 20.—The Atomic Energy Commission unanimously approved Mr. Baruch's plan for the control of atomic energy.

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

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| Jan. | ? | Resumption of Palestine Conference, London. |
| " | 16 | Election of President of the Republic, France. |
| " | 20 | Resumption of Session of Constituent Assembly, India. |
| " | 19 | General Election in Poland. |
| " | 19 | State Elections in Brazil. |
| Feb. | 9 | Elections to Supreme Soviet of the Russian Soviet Republic. |
| " | 15 | Fourth Session of Economic and Social Council, New York. |
| Mar. | 5 | 101st Session of the Governing Body I.L.O., Geneva. |
| " | 10 | Meeting of Foreign Ministers, Moscow. |